

Use the letter from Amy Fynmore on the blue paper to answer questions 1-12.

1. In paragraph 1, what does the word “impoverished” mean?
  - A. illiterate
  - B. sick
  - C. poor
  - D. disabled
2. In paragraph 2, what does the word “exemplary” mean?
  - A. outstanding
  - B. disgraceful
  - C. lousy
  - D. heroic
3. Based on the letter, which of the following statements is an **unsupported statement**?
  - A. The writer will be traveling with someone else.
  - B. The writer raised enough money to go to Peru.
  - C. The writer sent many letters asking for donations.
  - D. The writer is going to Peru for two weeks.
4. What is the position/title of the person to whom this letter is written?
  - A. President
  - B. Secretary
  - C. Student
  - D. Manager
5. Based on the text, what **logical inference** can be made?
  - A. Amy and Maria hope to get jobs with the company.
  - B. Amy and Maria will receive support from the company in the future.
  - C. Amy and Maria will be paid for their work in Peru.
  - D. Amy and Maria hope to receive money from other sources.
6. What is the purpose of this letter?
  - A. to request information
  - B. to express appreciation
  - C. to offer assistance
  - D. to clarify objectives



Please do not write on this test. Please use the scantron.

7. Which of the following statements is an **opinion**?

- A. Amy and Maria used Mr. Whitman's office and his office supplies.
- B. Mr. Whitman is a very generous man who likes to help people.
- C. Amy and Maria are going to Peru to work with children.
- D. Amy and Maria are very thankful for Mr. Whitman's help with their project.

8. Which is the best option for revision of the following sentence from paragraph 3?

**Your generosity will not only provide us with the opportunity to make this trip possible, but will also be a great benefit both to the children in Pucallpa and us.**

- A. Your generosity will not only provide us with the opportunity to make this trip possible. But will also be a great benefit both to the children in Pucallpa and us.
- B. Your generosity will not only provide us with the opportunity to make this trip possible, it will also be a great benefit both to the children in Pucallpa and us.
- C. Your generosity will provide us with the opportunity to make this trip possible and it will also be a great benefit both to the children in Pucallpa and us.
- D. Your generosity will not only provide us with the opportunity to make this trip possible; but will also be a great benefit both to the children in Pucallpa and us.

9. Mr. Whitman's donation of his office space and mailing supplies will cause Maria and Amy to be able to

- A. get a job with Performance Builders, Inc.
- B. go to Peru to work with children.
- C. get to know Mr. Whitman better.
- D. find office supplies with ease due to Mr. Whitman's organizational skills.

10. The best summary of the **second paragraph** is:

- A. Amy and Maria really appreciate the organizational skills, flexibility, and assistance of Mr. Whitman and could not have raised money for their trip without his help and support. They say that his help and support will benefit children in Peru as well as them.
- B. Amy and Maria appreciate that Mr. Whitman allowed them to use his office space and admire him because of his great organizational skills. They were able to use office supplies and postage in order to send many letters, and they are really grateful to Mr. Whitman.
- C. Amy and Maria are taking a trip to Peru in order to help poor children, and Mr. Whitman's donations of his office and office supplies, as well as the list of possible contributors to their cause, helped them to raise enough money to be able to go.
- D. Mr. Whitman's donations of office supplies and postage, as well as a list of people who might contribute money to Amy and Maria, caused Amy to write this letter to him.



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11. Which of the following did Mr. Whitman provide to Amy and Maria?

- A. office space, office supplies, postage, and money
- B. plane tickets, office supplies, postage, and a list of contributors
- C. office supplies, postage, money, and plane tickets
- D. office space, office supplies, postage, and a list of contributors

12. Based on the reading, Amy and Maria are most concerned about which of the following:

- A. their image in the community
- B. meeting cute boys in Peru
- C. being generous and caring individuals
- D. performing court-ordered community service

Use the short story "The Prom Date" on the green paper to answer questions 13-22.

13. As used in this passage, what is the meaning of "preceded"?

**My reputation for getting cranky when hungry had probably preceded me.**

- A. followed
- B. tattled on
- C. gone ahead of
- D. watched over

14. As used in this passage, what is the meaning of "fabricated"?

**Once we were in the main room, he confessed that he had fabricated a name rather than admit he didn't know his date.**

- A. invented
- B. memorized
- C. assumed
- D. suggested

15. Which of the following events did the narrator most enjoy?

- A. watching videos
- B. talking to her date
- C. riding in the car
- D. eating in the restaurant

16. Which of the following statements supports that the narrator is not looking forward to the date?

- A. "I felt like the last pair of old socks."
- B. "I was shocked at the civility of the whole conversation."
- C. "The evening made a very pleasant turn."
- D. "My reputation for getting cranky when hungry had preceded me."

17. Which of the following statements is a simile?

- A. "I felt like the last pair of old socks."
- B. "I was shocked at the civility of the whole conversation."
- C. "The evening made a very pleasant turn."
- D. "My reputation for getting cranky when hungry had preceded me."



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18. Which of the following reflects a sarcastic tone?

- A. "I was more shocked at the civility of the whole conversation."
- B. "The situation was as awkward and uncomfortable for him as it was for me."
- C. "My puzzlement grew as the talkative lady prattled on..."
- D. "Oh, baby, do we know how to party."

19. Which of the following statements is a metaphor?

- A. "The situation was as awkward and uncomfortable for him as it was for me."
- B. "My reputation for getting cranky when hungry had preceded me."
- C. "... in my chariot with my knight in shining armor, he called."
- D. "I felt like the last pair of old socks."

20. Which is the best summary for this short story?

- A. A girl goes on a blind date for prom and falls in love with her date because he has a cool car.
- B. A girl goes on a blind date for prom as a favor to her friend and has an ok time despite her original hesitation.
- C. A girl asks a boy to prom and is disappointed by his obnoxious behavior.
- D. A boy makes up his prom date's name because he never knew it.

21. Which of the following is a fact?

- A. No other student wanted to go to the prom with this story's narrator.
- B. The narrator's prom date obviously does not like the narrator.
- C. The narrator thought her prom date's car was the coolest car in which she'd ever been.
- D. A high school prom is a "major milestone" for all high school students.

22. The narrator in this story could best be described as

- A. selfish
- B. shy and quiet
- C. good-natured and happy
- D. overly concerned with what other people think of her



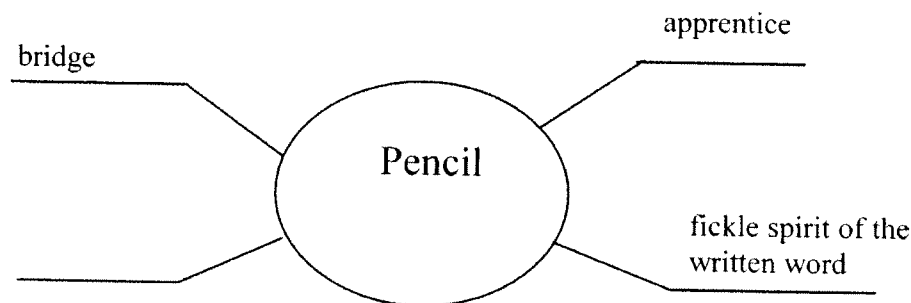
Please do not write on this test. Please use the scantron.

Use the poem "The Pencil" on the yellow paper to answer questions 23-29.

23. As used in line 18, what is the meaning of "scapegoat"?

- A. one who speaks up against wrong
- B. one who uses others for personal gain
- C. one who takes the blame for others' mistakes
- D. one who assigns tasks for others to complete

Look at the web below.



24. Which of the following **best** completes this web?

- A. faith or hatred
- B. your scapegoat
- C. your gentle touch
- D. work my magic

25. All of the items on the outside of the above web are \_\_\_\_\_ for the pencil.

- A. similes
- B. personifications
- C. metaphors
- D. allusions

26. What does the author mean by referring to the pencil as "your two-faced best friend"?

- A. The pencil needs to write on two sides of a sheet of paper.
- B. The pencil might be smiling today and frowning tomorrow.
- C. The pencil has one end for writing and the other end for erasing.
- D. The pencil can be used to write positive or negative things.

27. Which of the following phrases in "Pencil" does **not** have a negative connotation?

- A. Studied my every angle, precise point, smooth yellow?
- B. Who else can be your tool/weapon but me?
- C. Your two-faced best friend.
- D. Wanna really hurt somebody?

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28. Which of the following literary techniques is used in this poem?

- A. personification
- B. onomatopoeia
- C. allusion
- D. rhyme

29. Which of the following narrative point of view is used in this poem?

- A. third-person omniscient
- B. first person
- C. third-person limited
- D. pencil to person

**Read the following passages, and choose the correct answer from the choices that match the underlined words or phrases.**

One of my cousin<sup>30</sup> is a great collector. The news is full of stories about lucky brakes<sup>31</sup>. You might read about how somebody finds a rare book in an attic. Few of these stories<sup>32</sup> is completely true. Still, my cousin and I like to hear them. We have spent many weekends going to yard sales. There are often collections of baseball cards for sale. These sales offer a great opportunity for collectors. People often don't know which cards are special. Several of the older cards<sup>33</sup> has greater value today than ever before. The cards in my collection was made<sup>34</sup> before 1960.

- 30. A. cousin are  
B. Cousins is  
C. cousins is
- 31. A. lucky breaks  
B. Lucky Brakes  
C. Lucky Breaks
- 32. A. story are  
B. storys is  
C. stories are
- 33. A. card have  
B. card has  
C. cards have
- 34. A. were made  
B. were maid  
C. was maid



Summative Assessment Spring

American Studies English

Please do not write on this test. Please use the scantron.

At the beginning of the Space Age <sup>35</sup>scientists placed a white dog inside *Sputnik II*. The dog <sup>36</sup>Laika was a Samoyed, a breed known for it's <sup>37</sup>sweet disposition. Samoyeds were originally used by nomadic people in Siberia to heard <sup>38</sup>reindeer and to pull sleds. However, this animal from the former Soviet <sup>39</sup>union accomplished a new task. Laika became the first living creature to orbit our planet. She is also probably the first dog ever to be at an altitude of 1,050 miles above the earth. We did not know exactly why Laika was chosen, but they're <sup>40</sup>three possible reasons. First, its husky build and heavy fur coat <sup>41</sup>allow the Samoyed to stand changes in temperature. Second, the Russians probably want <sup>42</sup>a breed of dog from Russia. Third, its strength, and <sup>43</sup>intelligence probably helped the Samoyed endure the hardships of the trip.

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Durians, rambutans, and mangosteens are weird, exotic fruits found in Malaysia. Durians look like spiky green footballs; <sup>44</sup>smell like dead animals. Some tourists have compared the odor of the durian to: rotting <sup>45</sup>vegetables and public restrooms. The government discourages eating durians in public. Train stations, bus stops and airline <sup>46</sup>terminals post "No Durians" signs. The "No Durians" sign has a red slash like our "No Smoking" sign, but it pictures the green fruit instead of a cigarette. Restaurants must install special fans; so durian <sup>47</sup>eaters won't offend other diners. Despite their stench, durians' are <sup>48</sup>popular because they taste heavenly. The pulp inside looks velvety and tastes like almond custard.

35. A. age scientists  
B. Age, scientists  
C. Age, Scientists
36. A. dog Laika,  
B. dog laika  
C. dog, Laika,
37. A. it's sweat  
B. its sweat  
C. its sweet
38. A. herd reindeer  
B. heard riendeer  
C. herd riendeer
39. A. soviet union  
B. Soviet-union  
C. Soviet Union
40. A. do not know  
B. didn't know  
C. could not know
41. A. their are  
B. there are  
C. they are
42. A. probably wants  
B. probly want  
C. probably wanted
43. A. strength, intelligence  
B. strength; intelligence  
C. strength and intelligence
44. A. footballs. And smell  
B. footballs and they smell  
C. footballs; they smell
45. A. durian to rotting  
B. durian too rotting  
C. durian two rotting
46. A. bus stops; airline  
B. bus stops, and airline  
C. bus stops, airline
47. A. fans, so durian  
B. fans; durian  
C. fans, and durian
48. A. durian's are popular  
B. durian is popular  
C. durians are popular



Summative Assessment Spring

American Studies English

Please do not write on this test. Please use the scantron.

Lou Gehrig never missed a day of elementary school. His mother encouraged him to attend college <sup>49</sup> she wanted him to become an accountant or an engineer. At Columbia University, a baseball scout from the New York Yankees saw Lou play, and <sup>50</sup> recruited him to play for the Yankees.

Lou replaced Wally Pipp at first base and played the next 2,130 consecutive games. He played the next 14 years without missing a game. Despite <sup>51</sup> broken fingers, fever, and back pains. The boy never missed a day of elementary school, the man <sup>52</sup> never missed a day of baseball. They called him the Iron Horse. <sup>53</sup>

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Mohandas K. Gandhi had one mission in life to <sup>54</sup> free 350 million indian people from British rule. He wanted to do this peacefully. <sup>55</sup> Gandhi believed people could free themselves from tyranny without resorting to terrorism or bloodshed.

When he was a boy few <sup>56</sup> guessed that the shy timid <sup>57</sup> Gandhi would someday become a great leader; after all, he was a member of the Vaisya caste, which included mostly farmer's and merchant's. <sup>58</sup> Despite such humble beginnings <sup>59</sup> Gandhi went to college and became a lawyer. Soon he was helping people fight racial injustice with a non-aggressive resistance he called *satyagraha*, which means truth and love with firmness. <sup>60</sup>

49. A. College, she  
B. college; she  
C. college, she
50. A. play; signed  
B. play and  
C. play. And
51. A. game; despite  
B. game, despite  
C. game! Despite
52. A. school and the man  
B. school; and the man  
C. school; the man
53. A. "Iron Horse."  
B. "Iron Horse".  
C. Iron Horse!
54. A. in life; to  
B. in life: to  
C. in Life: to
55. A. Indian People  
B. indian People  
C. Indian people
56. A. boy, few  
B. boy, less  
C. Boy few
57. A. shy, and timid  
B. shy-timid  
C. shy, timid
58. A. farmers and merchants  
B. farmers' and merchants'  
C. Farmers and Merchants
59. A. beginnings, gandhi  
B. beginnings; Gandhi  
C. beginnings, Gandhi
60. A. "truth and love with firmness".  
B. "truth and love with firmness."  
C. "truth and love with firmness"





Summative Assessment Spring

American Studies English

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Mohandas Gandhi influenced many people in 1959, a  
young, theological student by the name of Martin Luther  
King heard a lecture about this great spiritual leader. King  
was so excited by the idea of non-aggressive resistance that  
he bought half a dozen books about Gandhi. Using  
Gandhi's non-violent resistance, King helped break racial  
barriers for african-Americans here in the United States.

61. A. people; in  
B. people. In  
C. people; and in
62. A. Gandhi's  
B. Gandhis'  
C. Gandhies
63. A. Africanamericans  
B. African Americans  
C. African americans

Summative Assessment Spring  
Please do not write on this test. Please use the scantron.

American Studies English

**Read this letter before answering questions 1 through 12.**

12831 N. 6th Place  
Phoenix, AZ 85020  
June 4, 2008

Steve Whitman  
President  
Performance Builders, Inc.  
9121 N. 43rd Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85051-5700

Dear Mr. Whitman:

I am writing to thank you for allowing Maria and me to use your office as a workspace as well as to compliment your wonderful organizational skills. Maria and I, as you know, have been in your office multiple times in the past few days writing letters to raise money for our community service trip to Pucallpa, Peru, where we will work with impoverished children who lack adequate food and shelter. Not only did you allow us to use your office space, but also you helped us greatly by providing us with a list of possible contributors. Without your assistance, I don't think we would have been able to raise enough money for such a trip.

We recognize that accommodating our request for office space required flexibility on your part, but because of your exemplary organizational skills and assistance we were able to accomplish our objectives without disrupting your daily routine. Every time we needed office supplies, such as pens, highlighters, envelopes, or paper, we were able to find them with ease. Your donations of the materials and postage needed to send over one hundred letters are most appreciated. We could not have done this without you.

You have helped us greatly this past week. Your generosity will not only provide us with the opportunity to make this trip possible, but will also be a great benefit both to the children in Pucallpa and us. Again, we thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

*Amy Fynmore*

Amy Fynmore

**Read this poem before answering questions 23 through 29.**

The Pencil

by Rob Mack

Have you ever looked at me?

I mean, really looked. Hard.

Studied my every angle, precise point, smooth  
yellow?

No?

I'm not surprised.

Who else can be your tool/weapon but me?

I am the unlikely bridge

(wooden, with cracks)

that connects you to your writing.

To me, creation is no big feat.

I do and undo it all the time,  
without the need for faith or hatred.

Do.

Undo.

I am the fickle spirit of the written word,

Your two-faced best friend.

Wanna really hurt somebody?

I'm your scapegoat,

ready to slander the innocent.

Wanna really inspire somebody?

I'm your apprentice.

Write it down.

I can be your portable righteousness

or your pocket-sized evil.

I can create.

I can destroy.

I can't do it without your help.

I am nothing on my own.

No will, no heart, to write.

I need your gentle touch,

your guiding caress,

to work my magic.

So grasp me, and let's begin ...

### The Prom Date

(The date that's not really a date.)

by Emily Jenkins

"Well, he doesn't have a date, and I really want you to go. So, I thought you two could just go together. What do you think?"

I still remember those exact words as I think back on the events of my first prom. My reaction to my best friend's question was probably what anyone would say when faced with the prospects of a blind date. What did I think? Well, I felt like the last pair of old socks stuck in the bottom drawer that will have to do because all of the good ones are in the laundry basket. Of course, I would never dare reveal that thought to her since she is my best friend and she genuinely wanted me to go to one of the major milestones of high school. I gave my friend permission to disclose my phone number to him so that he could call me to "make the necessary arrangements."

Soon, this obscure person who was to accompany me on this magical event called me. Our conversation was less than encouraging.

"What color is your dress?"

"Blue. Why?"

"So I can match the vest of my tux with your dress."

"Oh. So, are you going to pick me up or meet me somewhere?"

"I can pick you up."

"Okay, do you want my address?"

"Well, I can get all the stuff from Tina."

"See you at seven?"

"Okay. See you then."

"Bye."

As shocked as I was about his need to color coordinate, I was more shocked at the civility of the whole conversation. It was as if we were setting up some kind of business meeting. I understood his mindset; the situation was as awkward and uncomfortable for him as it was for me.

The fateful day arrived! Hours before I was supposed to be whisked away in my chariot with my knight in shining armor, he called.

Evidently he was being delayed by a previous engagement, and I would miss ALL of dinner if he picked me up himself. Being the gentleman that he is, however, he called my friend and arranged for her to swing by and drive me to the restaurant. My reputation for getting cranky when hungry had probably preceded me.

Surprisingly, dinner was quite good. The service was efficient, the food was excellent, and I had a great time with my friend and her date. I was glad I was able to go. Just as the dinner bill was being paid, my date appeared, offered me his arm, and walked me to his car. The evening made a very pleasant turn when I had my first glimpse of his futuristic-looking car. The sleek, curved lines of the body started me wondering if he would begin the countdown for liftoff at any moment. The dash resembled a computer with a touch-screen monitor complete with a locator system. It had to be the coolest car in which I have ever ridden. I spent the entire trip playing with the interactive screen and asking all sorts of questions, such as, "Does it yell at you when you make a wrong turn?"

We almost made it to the dance without incident. It took several minutes for my heart to stop racing after we were nearly side-swiped by a car in the next lane. Apparently, this futuristic car has a severe blind-spot problem.

Finally we made our way into the building, and as we approached the check-in table, the adults greeted my "date," then stared at me like I was some kind of exotic animal. The woman with her official list greeted me with the right first name, but a completely wrong last name. After an embarrassing session of thoroughly comparing my face to the tiny photo on my school ID, my date finally agreed that, yes, that was my name. My puzzlement grew as the talkative lady prattled on about how her seven-year-old daughter has the same name and how she was surprised to see her daughter's name on the list. I smiled sheepishly while my date dragged me past the table. Once we were in the main room, he confessed that he had fabricated a name rather than admit he didn't know his date.

Please do not write on this test. Please use the scantron.

As midnight approached, discussion of the “after-party” began. After some deliberation, we decided that ice cream and videos at my friend’s house would be fun. My date and I were delegated the task of buying the ice cream, while everyone else was delegated the task of driving there. Two stores later, we had two flavors of ice cream and a couple of great date movies. We were ready to rock! (Oh, baby, do we know how to party).

Before the night ended, I was treated to more joy-ride in the future-car. Things were a bit awkward once we arrived at my house, but then I remembered this was not really a date. I thanked him for the nice night, got out of the car, and hurried to my front door. It might not have been the fairytale I had hoped for and I will definitely think twice before letting my best friend talk me into another blind date, but a night that included good food, a cool car, and ice cream can’t be all bad.